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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,435	03/01/2004	Woo Jin Chang	P69522US0	7024

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EXAMINER

HAM, SEUNGSOOK

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2817

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/788,435	CHANG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Seungsook Ham	2817	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/1/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Morz et al. (US '172).

Morz et al. (fig. 4) discloses a waveguide interconnection apparatus comprising: a first housing 9 having a first waveguide 11; a second housing having a second waveguide 4 connected to the first waveguide; wherein a signal propagated from the first waveguide is reflected to have a predetermined angle when it passes an interconnecting portion of the waveguides; and at least one of an inner connecting portion and an outer connecting portion between the first and second waveguides is curved (col. 3, lines 6-34).

Regarding claim 11, it is inherent that the second housing (where the waveguide 4 is located at) is bonded to a cover made of conductive material to form a waveguide to propagate the signal.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

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the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art in view of Albee (US '596) or Yuanzhu (US '636).

The Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (figs. 1A and 1B) discloses the same waveguide interconnection apparatus except at least one of inner connecting portions and outer connecting portions between the first and second waveguide, and/or between the second waveguide and the third waveguide is curved.

Albee (figs. 1, 2 and 6) discloses a waveguide having an outer connecting portion 17 having a curved portion 18 for low VSWR (see abstract).

Yuanzhu (figs. 2 and-3) also discloses a waveguide 2 having an outer connecting portion 6 having a curved portion for low reflection (see abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a curved portion at least one of inner connecting portions and outer connecting portions between the first and second waveguide, and /or between the second waveguide and the third waveguide in the device of the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art for low VSWR or low reflection as taught by Albee (see abstract) or Yuanzhu (see abstract).

Regarding to claims 3 and 4, the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (fig. 1A) shows the second waveguide 20a having a first portion connected to the first waveguide (the left portion where it connected to the upper waveguide 10a), a second portion connected to the first portion (the middle portion), and a third portion (the right portion where it connected to the lower waveguide 30a). Providing each portion separately is considered as an obvious design modification since such modification does not alter the

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function of the waveguide. Moreover, the subject matter of claim 4 is inherent from the modifying the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art in view of Albee or Yuanzhu.

Regarding claims 5-7 and 11, "bonded" or "punched" cannot be given any patentable weight since these languages provide a method step in an apparatus claim.

Moreover, the subject matter of claim 5 and 11, it is obvious to provide a conductive cover on the second waveguide to propagate the signal (see also Albee, fig. 1, the cover 13).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Walker (US '870 and '306) and Goto et al. discloses a waveguide having a curved portion.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Seungsook Ham whose telephone number is (571) 272-2405. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:00AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on (571)-272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Seungsook Ham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2817

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